

Message Text

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41

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 /016 W
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R 231327Z NOV 76
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7885

UNCLAS LAGOS 13197

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR,MNI
SUBJECT: AIRCRAFT CLEARANCES FOR SATURN AIRWAYS

REF: STATE 283328

1. EMBASSY HAS CONTACTED PRINCIPAL AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL OFFICER, MR. J.I. DERU, ABOUT CLEARANCES FOR SATURN FLIGHTS. ACCORDING TO DERU, AIR CARGO CONGESTION AT MUHAMMED AIRPORT, LAGOS/IKEJA, HAS WORSENERD IN RECENT WEEKS TO EXTENT REQUIRING STRICT IMPLEMENTATION OF CLEARANCE PROCEDURES (OUTLINED IN INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT INFORMATION MANUAL). IN PARTICULAR, SINCE THIS CONGESTION CAUSED PRIMARILY BY ARRIVING GOODS WHICH ARE NOT PROMPTLY CLEARED BY AGENTS, BEFORE GRANTING CLEARANCE MINCIVAIR (MCA) REQUIRING AGENTS OF NON-SCHEDULED COMMERCIAL COMPANIES OPERATING FLIGHTS INTO NIGERIA TO SUBMIT AN AIRWAY BILL, ATTESTED INVOICE, AND CARGO MANIFEST TO AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL OFFICER, MCA, AT LEAST THREE DAYS BEFORE ARRIVWL OF FLIGHT TO INSURE CUSTOMS PRE-CLEARANCE AND EXPEDITIOUS REMOVAL OF GOODS.

2. EMBOFF POINTED OUT ALL SATURN CARGOS IN THESE FLIGHTS CONSIGNED TO PERMSEC,NMINISTRY OF DEFENSE (MOD). DERU CONCEDED THIS POINT AN IMPORTANT DIFFERENCE BUT INSISTED MCA NEEDS LETTER TO THAT EFFECT FROM MOD INNORDER TO EXEMPT 30 NOVEMBZR 1976 FLIGHT OR ANY FUTURE FLIGHT FROM USUAL PROCEDURES. DERU INDICATED,NHOWEVER, IFHLETTER FROM MOD COULD BE OBTAINED DETAILING DATES OF FLIGHTS AND TYPES OF CARGOS AS WELL AS STANDARD DESCRIPTIONS OF PLANES, CREWS, ANDMITINERARIES, FUTURE CLEARANCES COULD BE FACILITATED.

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IN MEANTIME, HE REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT STANDARD PUBLISHED

REGULATIONS.

3. EMBASSY SUGGESTS SATURN'S LOCAL AGENT PROVIDE REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION TO MCA FOR 30 NOV 76 FLIGHT AND SEEK APPROPRIATE LETTER FROM MOD TO ASSIST IN OBTAINING FUTURE FLIGHT CLEARANCES. WE DO NOT KNOW WHO SATURN'S AGENT IS IN LAGOS.

EASUM

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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